

New HIV infections (including AIDS cases), 2019-2020

Midlands Public Health Region includes twelve counties: Aiken, Barnwell, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, Newberry, Richland, Saluda, and York.

HIV in the Midlands Public Health Region (PHR) For the two-year period 2019-2020, 480 people were newly diagnosed with HIV. This represents 32 percent of the total cases diagnosed in South Carolina.

By gender, 84 percent of new HIV/AIDS cases occur among men; 16 percent were among women.

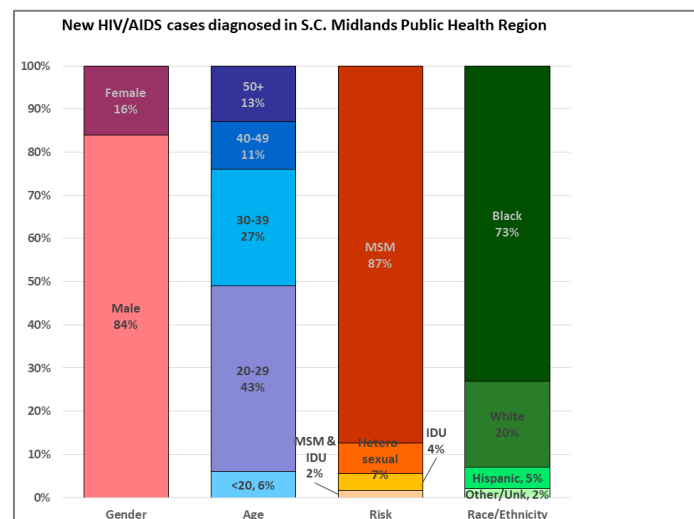
By age, the majority of new HIV/AIDS cases were among people ages 20-29 (43 percent), 27 percent were among people age 30-39, 11 percent were among people age 40-49, and 13 percent were age 50 and up. Six percent of new cases were under the age of 20.

By risk, among the 282 people who reported a risk, men who have sex with men (MSM) represent the largest proportion of recent infections (87 percent), followed by those indicating heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV (5 percent); four percent reported injecting drug use (IDU); and two percent were the combined risk of MSM and IDU.

By race/ethnicity, among people newly diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Midlands PHR, 73 percent were African American; 20 percent were white; and five percent were Hispanic. In 2019-2020, African Americans had a case rate 7.1 times greater than whites in the Midlands PHR.

Among women recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in the Midlands PHR, most were African American (62 percent) and 17 percent were White. Of the 15 women reporting risk, 60 percent indicated heterosexual sex as their exposure to HIV; 27 percent reported injecting drug use.

Among men recently diagnosed in the Midlands PHR, 71 percent were African American; 19 percent were white; and four percent were Hispanic. Of the 267 men reporting risk, 92 percent were men who have sex with men, one percent were exposed through heterosexual sex; four percent reported injecting drug use; three percent were both MSM and IDU.



Total People Living with HIV/AIDS through December 2020

As of December 2020, there were 6,282 residents of the Midlands Public Health Region living with a diagnosis of HIV (including AIDS). This represents 32 percent of the S.C. total. Of these, 4,566 were men and 1,716 were women. Most people (3,179) were ages 50 and over; 1,211 were ages 40-49; 1,171 were ages 30-39; 676 were ages 20-29; 45 were children and teens under 20 years of age.

As with new infections, African Americans are disproportionately impacted. Most (51 percent) of the people living with HIV in the Midlands Public Health Region were African American men, 17 percent were White men, 22 percent were African American women and four percent were White women. Five percent of people living with HIV were Hispanic/Latino (men & women).

Of the 4,786 people living with HIV who reported a risk, 59 percent reported a risk of men who have sex with men; followed by men and women exposed through heterosexual sex (28 percent); injecting drug use (eight percent); and the combined risk of men who have sex with men and injecting drug use (four percent).

S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations

Care, treatment and prevention services for persons living with HIV/AIDS are a top priority for the State of South Carolina's HIV Program.

Among remaining priority populations for HIV prevention services:		
S.C. HIV Prevention Program Priority Populations ^(1,2)	2019/2020 Diagnosed HIV/AIDS Cases by Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (292 Total) *	People Living with HIV/AIDS, 2020 By Population % of Total Cases w/Risks Identified (4,883 Total)
2. African American MSM	67%	38%
3. African American WSM	2%	15%
4. African American MSW	1%	7%
5. White MSM	13%	15%
6. IDU	5%	8%
7. ♦Hispanic/Latino ³	7%	6%

***Caution: Due to small numbers, must interpret recent case proportions with caution.**

NOTES:

1. Populations: MSM = Men who have Sex with Men; IDU = Injecting Drug User; WSM = Women who have Sex with Men; MSW = Men who have Sex with Women.
2. Priority Populations are a subset of the Epi Profile data and are not directly comparable to incidence and prevalence counts/percentages.
3. Ethnicity, in and of itself, is not a risk factor for HIV; however, in the context of Priority Populations, Hispanic/Latino is included as a 'Risk' for reporting purposes.

Source: SCDHEC, STD/HIV Division 12/2021

For more information visit: www.scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/hiv-aids-std-data-and-reports
or call the S.C. AIDS/STD Hotline toll free at 1-800-322-AIDS